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10/656,200	09/08/2003	Hideo Toyofuku	50099-237	7481

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MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY
600 13th Street, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER	
DICKER, DENNIS T	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/656,200	TOYOFUKU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dennis Dicker	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 October 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2 and 5-19* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *3 and 4* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *08 September 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claim1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 7, 9, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiroshi (hereinafter "Hiroshi '2A2" EP 838342A2) in view of Munetomo et al (hereinafter "Munetomo '530" 6,661,530).

With respect to **Claim 1**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches A printing system comprising: (a) a printing machine having a plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., A plurality of paper feed sections are included in the printer, Col. 3 Lines 40-45)**, said printing machine using a sheet stored in any one of said plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., Col. 3 Lines 45-49, sheets can be stored into a paper feed section and used for printing)**; and a controller for providing print data to said printing machine **(i.e., Col. 2 Lines 48-55 , Host computer providing print data to printer)**, said controller

including a paper feed section specifying element **(i.e., Col. 7 lines 16-17 , sheet feed controller)** for specifying one of said plurality of paper feed sections for feeding said sheet for printing of an image represented by said print data on said sheet **(i.e., Col. 7 Lines 14-17, sheet feed controller gives instructions to specify the sheet feed mechanism to select a specific sheet path for feeding a sheet for a image to be printed on),** an information defining element (,Col. 5 Line 9,print customizer) for defining identification information**(i.e., Col. 5 Lines 9-10, Print customizer defines a sheet that was fed in the printer by the specific sheet path)** that is used to create a preview image for identifying said plurality of paper feed sections. **(i.e., Col. 5 lines Col. 11-15, Specific sheets that were defined by the print customizer are previewed on a monitor).**

Hiroshi '2A2 does not explicitly teach an image creating element for creating a preview image, based on said image represented by said print data, and said identification information defined by said information defining element for the paper feed section specified by said paper feed section specifying element, and a display element for displaying said preview image created by said image creating element.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Munetomo '530 In particular, Munetomo '530 teaches the use of a printing system comprising identification information **(i.e. Col. 16 Lines 1-5,specific Sheet in a printer)** that is used to create a preview image **(i.e., Col. 16 Lines 1-5, specific sheet in printer is used to generate a preview image)** and an image creating element **(i.e.,2-13 of Fig. 2, Print preview processor)** for creating a preview image **(i.e. Fig.**

48,Print preview processor creates a preview image), based on said image represented by said print data **(i.e.,43-2 of Fig. 43, Document Data)**, and said identification information **(i.e., Col. 25 Line 59- Col 26 Line 4 and Fig. 50 ,Preview image is created based on specific sheet feed type and print data)** defined by said information defining element **(i.e., Col. 12 Lines 16-23., user input)** for the paper feed section **(i.e., Col. 17 lines 20-22, paper feed tray)** specified by said paper feed section specifying element **(i.e. Col. 16 lines 65-67,general information processor)** a display element **(i.e.,42-6 of Fig. 42, Display)** for displaying said preview image created by said image creating element. **(i.e. fig. 50, display shows user a preview created by print preview processor)**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of Hiroshi '2A2 as taught by Munetomo '530 since Munetomo '530 suggested in Col. 17 lines 26-27 that such a modification would permit a more user friendly printing system.

With respect to **Claim 7**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a controller **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 4-11, Host computer sends data to control plurality of printers)** for providing print data to a printing machine **(i.e., Col. 2 Lines 48-55 , Host computer providing print data to printer)**, said controller comprising: an information defining element **(i.e., Col. 5 Line 9,print customizer)** for defining identification information **(i.e., Col. 5 Lines 9-10, Print customizer defines a sheet that was fed in the printer by the specific sheet path)**that is used to create a preview image for identifying a plurality of paper feed sections provided in said printing machine **(i.e., Col. 5 lines Col. 11-15 and Fig. 5,**

Specific sheets that were defined by the print customizer are previewed on a monitor); a paper feed section specifying element **(i.e., Col. 7 lines 16-17 , sheet feed controller)**for specifying one of said plurality of paper feed sections for feeding a sheet for printing of an image represented by said print data on said sheet **(i.e., Col. 7 Lines 14-17, sheet feed controller gives instructions to specify the sheet feed mechanism to select a specific sheet path for feeding a sheet for a image to be printed on)**;

Hiroshi '2A2 does not explicitly teach a controller comprising an image creating element for creating a preview image based on said image represented by said print data, and said identification information defined by said information defining element for the paper feed section specified by said paper feed section specifying element and a display element for displaying said preview image created by said image creating element.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Munetomo '530 In particular, Munetomo '530 teaches a controller comprising an image creating element **(i.e.,2-13 of Fig. 2, Print preview processor)** for creating a preview image **(i.e. Fig. 48,Print preview processor creates a preview image)**based on said image represented by said print data **(i.e.,43-2 of Fig. 43, Document Data)**, and said identification information **(i.e., Col. 25 Line 59- Col 26 Line 4 and Fig. 50 ,Preview image is created based on specific sheet feed type and print data)** defined by said information defining element **(i.e. Col. 16 Lines 1-5,specific Sheet in a printer)**for the paper feed section **i.e., Col. 17 lines 20-22, paper**

feed tray) specified by said paper feed section specifying element **(i.e. Col. 16 lines 65-67,general information processor)** and a display element for displaying said preview image created by said image creating element **(i.e. fig. 50,Display shows user a preview created by print preview processor).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of Hiroshi '2A2 as taught by Munetomo '530 since Munetomo '530 suggested in Col. 17 lines 26-27 that such a modification would permit a more user friendly printing system.

With respect to **Claim 9**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a method **(i.e., Col. 11 Lines 10-27 Method of Hiroshi '2A2 stored on a recording medium)** comprising defining identification information **(i.e., Col. 5 Lines 9-10, Print customizer defines a sheet that was fed in the printer by the specific sheet path)** that is used to create a preview image for identifying a plurality of paper feed sections provided in a printing machine **(i.e., Col. 5 lines Col. 11-15 and Fig. 5, Specific sheets that were defined by the print customizer are previewed on a monitor)**; specifying one of said plurality of paper feed sections for feeding a sheet for printing of said image represented by said print data on said sheet; **(i.e., Col. 7 Lines 14-17, sheet feed controller gives instructions to specify the sheet feed mechanism to select a specific sheet path for feeding a sheet for a image to be printed on)**.

Hiroshi '2A2 does not explicitly teach a method of displaying an image represented by print data and creating a preview image, based on said image represented by said print data, and said identification information that is defined in step

(a) taught by Hiroshi '2A2 for the paper fed section specified in said step (b) and displaying said preview image created in said step (c),

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Munetomo '530 In particular, Munetomo '530 teaches the use of a method of displaying an image represented by print data **(i.e.,43-2 to 43-4 of Fig. 43, Document Data)** and creating a preview image **(i.e. Fig. 48,Print preview processor creates a preview image)**, based on said image represented by said print data , and said identification information **(i.e., col. 8 Lines 5-10, Preview image is created based on print data and identification information that is scanned in and now became image data)** that is defined in step (a) where Hiroshi '2A2 teaches the paper fed section specified in said step (b) and displaying said preview image created in said step (c) **(i.e., Hiroshi '2A2 Col. 5 lines Col. 11-15, Specific sheets that were defined by the print customizer are previewed on a monitor).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of Hiroshi '2A2 as taught by Munetomo '530 since Munetomo '530 suggested in Col. 17 lines 26-27 that such a modification would permit a more user friendly printing system.

With respect to **Claim 11,** Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a recording medium having recorded thereon a program readable by a computer **(i.e., Col. 11 Lines 10-27, program media having a program executable by a computer),** said program causing said computer to execute the steps of: defining identification information **(i.e.,Fig.3, paper feed sheets are defined)** that is used to create a preview image for identifying a

plurality of paper feed sections provided in a printing machine **(i.e., Fig. 3, Each paper feed sheet which is defined defines a paper feed section where the scanned paper feed sheet is used to create a preview of each sheet stored in the printer);** specifying on of said plurality of paper feed sections for feeding a sheet for printing of an image represented by print data on said sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 7-11 , User may select a paper feed path to select which paper feed section for feeding a sheet for printing of an image represented by print data)**

Hiroshi '2A2 teaches the said identification information defined in step (a) for the paper feed section specified in said step (b) and displaying said preview image created in step(c) but does not teach a recording medium having a program readable by a computer a step of creating a preview image, based on said image represented by said print data

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Munetomo '530 In particular, Munetomo '530 teaches the use of a program readable by a computer a step of creating a preview image **(i.e. Fig. 48, Print preview processor creates a preview image),** based on said image represented by said print data **(i.e., 43-2 of Fig. 43, Document Data)**.

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of Hiroshi '2A2 as taught by Munetomo '530 since Munetomo '530 suggested in Col. 17 lines 26-27 that such a modification would permit a more user friendly printing system.

With respect to **Claim 13**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches A program product including a program readable by a computer **(i.e., Col. 11 Lines 10-27, program product having a program executable by a computer),** said program causing said computer to execute the steps of: (a) defining identification information **(i.e.,Fig.3, paper feed sheets are defined)** that is used to create a preview image for identifying a plurality of paper feed sections provided in a printing machine **(i.e., Fig. 3, Each paper feed sheet which is defined defines a paper feed section where the scanned paper feed sheet is used to create a preview of each sheet stored in the printer)**; (b) specifying one of said plurality of paper feed sections for feeding a sheet for printing of an image represented by print data on said sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 7-11 , User may select a paper feed path to select which paper feed section for feeding a sheet for printing of an image represented by print data)**;

Hiroshi '2A2 teaches the said identification information defined in step (a) for the paper feed section specified in said step (b) and displaying said preview image created in step(c) but does not teach a recording medium having a program readable by a computer a step of creating a preview image, based on said image represented by said print data.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Munetomo '530 In particular, Munetomo '530 teaches the use of a program readable by a computer a step of creating a preview image **(i.e. Fig. 48, print preview processor creates a preview image),** based on said image represented by said print data **(i.e., 43-2 of Fig. 43, Document Data)**.

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of Hiroshi '2A2 as taught by Munetomo '530 since Munetomo '530 suggested in Col. 17 lines 26-27 that such a modification would permit a more user friendly printing system.

3. Claims 2, 5-6, 8, 10, 12, 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hiroshi in view of Munetomo '530 and further in view of Shibasaki (hereinafter Shibasaki '352"US 2002/0054352).

With respect to **Claim 2**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a slip sheet feed section specifying element **(i.e., Col 5 Lines 11-19, GUI)** for specifying on of said plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., Col. 4 Line 7-9, GUI sends instructions specifying which paper feed section)** for feeding a sheet to be used as a slip sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 5-11, The selection from the GUI specifies which slip sheet that will be used)** and Munetomo '530 teaches an image creating element which creates said preview image **(i.e., Col. 14 Lines 25-30 Print preview processor creates a preview image).**

The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a printing system wherein said controller where a preview image is created based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted where Hiroshi '2A2 teaches defining said information defining element **(i.e., Col. 12 Lines 16-23., user input)** for the paper feed section specified by said slip sheet feed section specifying element **(i.e., Col. 12 Lines 16-23., user input from computer)**.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a printing system wherein said controller where a preview image (i.e., Fig. 10, Preview image of print data and slip sheet) is created based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted **(i.e., 22a of Fig. 9, Slip sheet which is scanned in becomes an image file where it can be represented by a file name such as "INPUT DATA FILE 2" and the slip sheet can be correlated with any page of the print data)** which is specified by said position specifying element **(i.e., Para 0040, panel control section for specifying position),** and said identification information **(i.e., 22a of Fig. 8, identification information)**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 5,** Munetomo '530 teaches a printing system wherein said image creating element **(i.e.,2-13 of Fig. 2, Print preview processor)** creates said preview image **(i.e. Fig. 48,Print preview processor creates a preview image)** by using said identification information (i.e., 15-1 of Fig. 15, Print setting data) defined by Hiroshi '2A2 where said information defining element **(i.e., Col. 12 Lines 16-23., user input)** for said paper feed section **(i.e., Col. 17 lines 20-22, paper feed tray)** specified

by said paper feed section specifying element as a preview image **(i.e. Col. 16 lines 65-67,general information processor)**.

The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach printing system where the identification information is defined a pattern of said preview image.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352, In particular Shibasaki '352 teaches a printing system where the identification information is defined a pattern of said preview image **(i.e., Identification information as shown in 22a of fig. 9 can be defined as a pattern of said preview image as shown in 31a of fig. 10).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 6,** Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a printing system wherein said display element **(i.e., Col. 5 Lines 28, GUI)** displays a plurality of preview images created by said image creating element in list form **(i.e.,** Col 5 Lines 11-19 **and Fig. 3, GUI displays in list form a preview image created by a image creating element such as a print customizer a list of preview images).**

With respect to **Claim 8**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a controller comprising slip sheet feed section specifying element **(i.e., Col 5 Lines 11-19, GUI)** for specifying one of said

plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., Col. 4 Line 7-9, GUI sends instructions specifying which paper feed section)** for feeding a sheet to be used as said slip sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 5-11, The selection from the GUI specifies which slip sheet that will be used)**

Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach the use of a controller comprising a position specifying element for specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted between printed sheets and wherein said image creating element creates said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a controller comprising a position specifying element **(i.e., Para 0040, Panel control section)**, for specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted **(i.e., Para 0040, Panel control section allows user to specify a position which a slip sheet is to be inserted)** between printed sheets **(i.e., Fig. 8,Panel control section allows user to designate where slip sheet [22a of fig. 8] is to be positioned among printed sheets [21a of fig. 8])** and wherein said image creating element creates said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted **(i.e., Fig. 10, a preview is displayed based on position in which said slip sheet is inserted)**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such

a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 10**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a method of specifying one of said plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., Col. 4 Line 7-9, GUI sends instructions specifying which paper feed section)** for feeding a sheet to be used as said slip sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 5-11, The selection from the GUI specifies which slip sheet that will be used)**

The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a method of specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted between printed sheets and wherein said step (c) includes creating said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted which is specified in said step (e), and said identification information defined in said step (a) for the paper feed section specified in said step (f).

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a method of specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted **(i.e., Para 0040, Panel control section allows user to specify a position which a slip sheet is to be inserted)**between printed sheets **(i.e., Fig. 8,Panel control section allows user to designate where slip sheet [22a of fig. 8] is to be positioned among printed sheets [21a of fig. 8])** and wherein said step (c) includes creating said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted which is specified in said step (e), and said identification information defined in said step (a) for the paper feed section

specified in said step (f). **(i.e., Fig. 10, a preview is displayed based on position in which said slip sheet is inserted and identification information in 22a of fig. 9).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 12**, Hiroshi '2A2 teaches a recording medium wherein said program causes said computer to further execute the steps of specifying on of said plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., Col. 4 Line 7-9, GUI sends instructions specifying which paper feed section)** for feeding a sheet to be used as said slip sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 5-11, The selection from the GUI specifies which slip sheet that will be used)**

The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a recording medium wherein aid program causes said computer to further execute the steps of specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted between printed sheets and where the step (c) includes creating said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted which is specified by in step (e) and said identification information is defined in step (a) for the paper feed section specified in step (f).

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a

recording medium wherein aid program causes said computer to further execute the steps of specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted **(i.e., Para 0040, Panel control section allows user to specify a position which a slip sheet is to be inserted)** between printed sheets (**i.e., Fig. 8,Panel control section allows user to designate where slip sheet [22a of fig. 8] is to be positioned among printed sheets [21a of fig. 8])** and where the step (c) includes creating said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted which is specified by in step (e) and said identification information is defined in step (a) for the paper feed section specified in step (f). **(i.e., Fig. 10, a preview is displayed based on position in which said slip sheet is inserted and identification information in 22a of fig. 9).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 14**, Hiroshi '2A2 The program product wherein said program causes said computer to further execute the steps of (f) specifying one of said plurality of paper feed sections **(i.e., Col. 4 Line 7-9, GUI sends instructions specifying which paper feed section)** for feeding a sheet to be used as said slip sheet **(i.e., Col. 4 Lines 5-11, The selection from the GUI specifies which slip sheet that will be used).**

The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a program product wherein said program causes said computer to further execute the steps of (e) specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted between printed sheets, and said step (c) includes creating said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted which is specified in said step (e), and said identification information defined in said step (a) for the paper feed section specified in said step (f).

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a program product wherein said program causes said computer to further execute the steps of specifying a position in which a slip sheet is to be inserted **(i.e., Para 0040, Panel control section allows user to specify a position which a slip sheet is to be inserted)** between printed sheets (**i.e., Fig. 8,Panel control section allows user to designate where slip sheet [22a of fig. 8] is to be positioned among printed sheets [21a of fig. 8])** and where the step (c) includes creating said preview image, based on said position in which said slip sheet is to be inserted which is specified by in step (e) and said identification information is defined in step (a) for the paper feed section specified in step (f). **(i.e., Fig. 10, a preview is displayed based on position in which said slip sheet is inserted and identification information in 22a of fig. 9).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para

0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 15**, The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach The printing system wherein said image creating element creates said preview image based on an image composed of said identification information and said image.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a printing system wherein said image creating element creates said preview image **(i.e., Para 0026, Preview image displayed on a preview image)** based on an image composed of said identification information **(i.e., Fig. 7,Identification information is scanned in and represented as 22a)**and said image **(i.e., Para 50 and Fig. 7 , Image is inputted as data file 1 and represented as 21a).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 16** The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a controller wherein said image creating element creates said preview image based on an image composed of said identification information and said image.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a controller wherein said image creating element creates said preview image **(i.e., Para 0026, Preview image displayed on a preview image)** based on an image composed of said identification information **(i.e., Fig. 7,Identification information is scanned in and represented as 22a)**and said image **(i.e., Para 50 and Fig. 7 , Image is inputted as data file 1 and represented as 21a).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 17**, The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a method of displaying wherein said step (c) creates said preview image based on an image composed of said identification information and said image.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a method of displaying wherein said step (c) creates said preview image **(i.e., Para 0026, Preview image displayed on a preview image)** based on an image composed of said identification information **(i.e., Fig. 7,Identification information is scanned in and**

represented as 22a)and said image **(i.e., Para 50 and Fig. 7 , Image is inputted as data file 1 and represented as 21a).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 18** The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a recording medium wherein said step (c) creates said preview image based on an image composed of said identification information and said image.

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a recording medium wherein said step (c) creates said preview image **(i.e., Para 0026, Preview image displayed on a preview image)** based on an image composed of said identification information **(i.e., Fig. 7,Identification information is scanned in and represented as 22a)**and said image **(i.e., Para 50 and Fig. 7 , Image is inputted as data file 1 and represented as 21a).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

With respect to **Claim 19** The combination of Hiroshi '2A2 and Munetomo '530 does not explicitly teach a program product wherein said step (c) creates said preview image based on an image composed of said identification information and said image

However, the mentioned Claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Shibasaki '352 In particular, Shibasaki '352 teaches the use of a program product wherein said step (c) creates said preview image **(i.e., Para 0026, Preview image displayed on a preview image)** based on an image composed of said identification information **(i.e., Fig. 7,Identification information is scanned in and represented as 22a)**and said image **(i.e., Para 50 and Fig. 7 , Image is inputted as data file 1 and represented as 21a).**

In view of this, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify the printing system of '2A2 and Munetomo '530 as taught by Shibasaki '352 since Shibasaki '352 suggested in Para 0012 that such a modification would provide a system for image formation where a user can easily carry out setting and combination of original images as the user intended.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 3 and 4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest a printing System comprising a printing, controller

an information defining element, paper feed section, image creating element and a display element where the image creating element creates a preview image by identification specified by paper feed specifying element as a background and periphery of preview image.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis Dicker whose telephone number is (571) 270-3140. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Friday 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Aung Moe can be reached on (571) 272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Aung Moe
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